

News notes

Lakenheath members participate in Canadian exercise

More than 275 Lakenheath people and 20 aircraft are participating in Maple Flag, an exercise at Canadian Forces Base Cold Lake, Canada, sponsored by the Canadian Armed Forces.

The goal of the exercise is to increase aircrew capability, test maintenance people on how well they do their job, and allow the U.S. Air Force to work with other NATO countries.

Aircraft and people from the 493rd and 494th fighter squadrons are participating. Many 494th FS people left May 23. The 493rd FS people have to be in place June 7.

"Those who participate fight a simulated 10-day air campaign against aircraft from Nellis (AFB, Nevada) and Luke (AFB, Ariz.)," said Capt. John Bunnell, Maple Flag project officer for the 494th Fighter Squadron.

For more information about Maple Flag, go to Internet page <http://www.4wing.coldlake.dnd.ca/4wing.html>.

Limited access to PRP records

People have limited access to Personnel Reliability Program records through June 13. Records are unavailable June 16 - 20 due to the headquarters USAFE staff assistance visit. For more information, call Ext. 2068.

Feltwell gate closes earlier

The RAF Feltwell back gate closes at 10 p.m. every day beginning Sunday.

Groups recall 'Ready 2 Play' table tennis set

DALLAS (AFNS) – The Army and Air Force Exchange Service, in conjunction with Lifetime Leisure, Inc. of Clearfield, Utah, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission, announce the immediate voluntary recall of "Ready 2 Play" table tennis sets, model No. 6010.

The tables can collapse unexpectedly when in the play or playback position if

impacted on one end of the table while the casters are in deep carpet or other obstruction. Leg frames forced to collapse in the wrong direction can allow table tops to fold causing possible personal injury or property damage.

AAFES sold "Ready 2 Play" table tennis sets worldwide for \$199 Aug. 1, 1996 to March 1. Other recalled "Ready 2 Play" table tennis model numbers not sold by AAFES are 5015, 6017 and 6020.

Customers overseas can request the free repair kit containing two brackets to add to the table legs from their local exchange, or write to: Lifetime Leisure, Inc., Bldg. D-10 Freeport Center, Clearfield, UT 84016, Attn: Customer Service.

Reimbursable moving costs increase for military members

Question: Has there been any effort to increase the amount of money people are reimbursed for permanent-change-of-station costs?

Answer: Yes, and the Air Force has made some progress in this area. The goal is to compensate people for authorized items and eliminate "out-of-pocket" expenses. Generally, people are reimbursed for such things as lodging, meals and transportation.

In 1990, the average reimbursement was 50 cents on the dollar. In 1996, the average reimbursement increased to 67 cents on the dollar. In 1997, reimbursement is estimated to increase to 74 cents on the dollar.

Here are some of the new "gains" the Air Force has made:

❑ The dislocation allowance increased from two to 2.5 times basic allowance for quarters. This will add an additional \$230 for a staff sergeant with a family.

❑ Storage costs are now authorized for privately owned vehicles when a member is restricted from shipping a car to an overseas area.

❑ Round-trip mileage is now authorized to pick up or deliver a car to or from port for an overseas PCS.

More information concerning quality-of-life issues can be found on the Directorate of Personnel home page: <http://www.dp.hq.af.mil/DP/>

For more information about PCS entitlements, call the finance office at 1851.

Changes in command slated

RAF Lakenheath said farewell to one commander while welcoming another this week.

Col. Rulon Brough stepped down as the 48th Support Group commander Wednesday. Lt. Col. Donald Gemeinhardt, 48th SPTG deputy commander, serves as acting commander until mid-July.

Lt. Col. Michelle Atchison assumed command of the 48th Services Squadron Tuesday, replacing acting commander Lt. Col. Michael Bradley.

Liberty Warrior

'Can do' person of the week

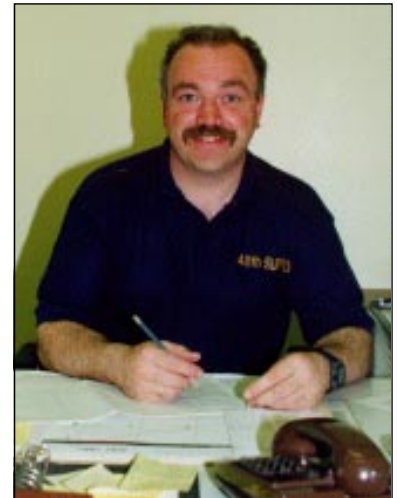


Photo by SrA. Robert H. Gerlach

Philip Rees

48th Supply Squadron

Hometown: London

Time in service: 15 years

Time on station: Seven years

Role in mission: Inventory supply assets.

Favorite color: Blue

What do you want your children to be when they grow up? I would like Chris to pursue a career in the legal profession.

What's your philosophy of life and why? Work hard, play hard, eat, drink, and be merry! Life is just but a bowl of cherries.

Who do you think has been the most influential political person in the United States this century? John F. Kennedy

How will you celebrate the millennium? Celebrating in London with all of the other party animals.

What has been your most memorable experience in Europe? Going on a rugby tour in Germany, and playing against the Europeans.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? Retired and living the life of luxury in Bermuda.

What do you like most about Britain? The weather.

What would you do to make things better at RAF Lakenheath? Easing the congestion of traffic when leaving to go home.

What do you like best about the Air Force? The way that the military works alongside of the Ministry of Defence to get the mission accomplished.

Did you know?

Accepting gifts or payments from hotels in exchange for providing them with temporary living facility customers is prohibited by the Joint Ethics Regulation. The regulation prohibits federal employees from using their official position to obtain private gain. This includes sponsors. Violation of this prohibition is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. For more information, call the legal office at Ext. 3553.